Vol. XIII 1896

General Notes.

is an easy matter to save them when making a skin, and no preparation is necessary other than to allow the tongue to dry, as a little soaking will restore the tongue nearly to its fresh condition. -F. A. LUCAS, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Pinicola enucleator in Westchester County, N. Y.—Some two miles northeast from Sing Sing, N. Y., on February 12, 1896, I shot a male Pine Grosbeak in high plumage. The bird was in one of a few pine trees in a considerable grove of cedars. Careful search in the vicinity failed to reveal others. — L. S. FOSTER, New York City.

The Pine Grosbeak at Poughkeepsie, N. Y .- The Pine Grosbeaks (Pinicola enucleator) have been very numerous in the grounds surrounding Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, this winter. They were attracted perhaps by the large number of spruce trees growing there which seem to offer them very palatable food. They have created quite a havoc among these trees. Early in the winter as I was walking among the evergreens, I found the snow literally carpeted with tips of the spruce trees and fragments of buds and seeds. On examining the twigs I found that the buds were eaten and that there were indications of pecking at the points of separation. I had never seen the ground so covered, and perceived at once that there was some unusual cause for such devastation. I looked about among the trees but saw only a pair of Kinglets, and I could not in conscience charge them with such wholesale destruction. I therefore suspected the Pine Grosbeaks, and my suspicion was later confirmed by my catching them in the very act. This flock has consisted almost entirely of young males and females, as is usually the case. One red male was noted early in January feeding with the flock, and later another was found dead.

The weather has not been continuously severe, and the ground has not been covered with snow more than a week at a time. The Grosbeaks are still here, March 13.

A Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) has also been seen this winter. It is an uncommon visitant in this vicinity.— CAROLINE E. FURNESS, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

The Pine Grosbeak (*P. enucleator*) in New Jersey.—On Sunday, March 8, 1896, while driving through Wortendyke, about two miles west from here, I saw two birds of this species in a fir tree by the roadside. There was no possibility of a mistake as I was within twenty feet and had a good view of them. They were either females or young males, and their thick bills and white wing bars were very noticeable. About an hour later, while in Allendale, I saw another of the same species in a small tree, bare of leaves, in a field adjoining the highway. Although I went over the same ground the two next following days I did not meet with any Pine Grosbeaks.—DELAGNEL BERIER, *Ridgewood*, N.  $\mathcal{F}$ .